

CLAIMS:

I claim:

1. A system for scheduling medical professionals from medical registries to perform temporary shift assignments at hospitals and medical facilities using the Internet comprising the steps of:

- (a) means for allowing entry by a registry of the search criteria information for their medical staffers into a storage area of said system using personal or network computer terminals which are enabled to access the Internet;
- (b) means for allowing entry by a user hospital of identification information into said storage area of said system using said personal or network computer terminals which are enabled to access the Internet;
- (c) means for allowing entry by said user hospital of specifics of an order for a shift assignment;
- (d) means for allowing automatic search through said storage areas by said system for possible matches between said order and said stored data referred to by subsection (a);
- (e) means for allowing identification and prioritization by said system of matches between said stored data and said order;
- (f) means for allowing automatic notification by said system of matching staffers in priority order on a continuous basis until completed or suspended;
- (g) means for allowing access to said order specifics in said system by said medical staffers using a PIN number, which specifics are available graphically or by synthetic voice accessed by telecommunications or other electronic means;

- (h) means for allowing a staffer who has been notified by said system to electronically accept said order using said PIN number;
- (I) means for allowing said system to lock out subsequent attempts to accept said order using a PIN number from another staffer;
- (j) means for allowing said system to notify said user-hospital of the identity of said accepting staffer by electronic means; and
- (k) means for allowing said system to invoice user-hospital on behalf of registry for services of staffer accepting the shift assignment using information from said order, said acceptance, and from said storage areas of said system.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the system contains means whereby entries are made into said storage area of said system using preprogramed drop-down lists.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means for said entries to be made into said storage area of said system by data entry from a standard computer keyboard of any brand name.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said notification is accomplished by said system by automatically dialing a hard-wire telephone number for said matching staffers.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said notification is accomplished by said system by automatically dialing a wireless telephone number for said matching staffers.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said notification is accomplished by said system by automatically dialing a pager number for said matching staffers.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said notification is accomplished by said system by automatically sending an electronic mail message to an E-mail address for matching staffers.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said medical staffers may access said order information graphically, using a personal computer of any brand with Internet access capability.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said medical staffers may access said order information stored in electronic synthetic digital voice.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said medical staffers may accept shift assignments by hardwired telecommunications, using a PIN number.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said medical staffers may accept shift assignments by wireless telecommunications, using said PIN number.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby said medical staffers may accept shift assignments by E-mail, using said PIN number.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means that automatically notifies an ordering hospital by E-mail of the identity of an accepting medical staffer.

14. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means that automatically notifies said ordering hospital by digital synthetic voice message of the identity of said accepting medical staffer.

15. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains means whereby invoices created by said system may be printed for physical mailing.

16. The system of claim 1, wherein said system contains

means whereby invoices created by said system may be sent to said ordering hospital by E-mail.

17. The system of claim **1**, wherein said system contains means whereby funds may be transferred automatically and electronically by the system to complete a billing cycle.

18. The system of claim **1**, wherein said system contains means whereby any requesting business could transmit its order to several pre-sorted vendors nearly simultaneously wherein the first said vendor who correctly responds could accept and obtain the order.